



Served by the No. 1 News
Organizations — The
Associated Press
& Wide World

Hope Star

The Weather

Arkansas: Colder in North and
Central; little temperature change
in extreme south portion tonight.

HOPE, ARKANSAS, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1942

(AP)—Means Associated Press
(NEA)—Means Newspaper Enterprise Ass'n

PRICE 5c COPY

28,000 Nazis in Tunisia

U. S. Troop Transport Sinks With Loss of Only 4 Men

Our Daily Bread

Sliced Thin by The Editor

ALEX. H. WASHBURN

Man With a Goose

One of the prize sights of this world is a big fat white goose lowering himself down from a high curb preparatory to crossing a city street. I write of what I see and know—for this took place in front of The Star building this morning.

Japs Fighting Hard to Break Trap at Buna

—War in Pacific

Allied Headquarters in Australia, Dec. 12.—(AP)—Japanese troops are making desperate efforts to break out of their trap in the Buna area of New Guinea, an Allied communiqué declared today, but their remaining positions are being blotted out methodically by Allied artillery and their counter attacks "bloodily repulsed."

With Buna in Allied hands, the Japanese were pinned back against the sea on a mile-wide strip of beach about nine miles long. A few were reported still resisting along the trail to Soputa, about six miles inland.

Frustrated in their attempts to reinforce their troops by sea, the Japanese were still trying to supply the mby parachute, the communiqué reported.

In their frantic efforts to escape death or capture they counter-attacked repeatedly south of Sanananda, but were repulsed in bloody fighting each time, the bulletin from Gen. Douglas MacArthur's headquarters said. Allied planes continued to rake the narrowing enemy lines with machinegun and cannon fire.

The bitter "last stand" nature of the fighting which has been churning over the New Guinea beaches was by all accounts an announcement that the final operations at Buna resulted in the killing of at least 400 Japanese and the capture of only 16 prisoners. Additional Japanese casualties were still to be reported, the communiqué said. A number of enemy guns and a quantity of ammunition also were reported captured.

American troops, after driving a wedge to the sea between Buna and Cape Endiaderre, were picking Japanese snipers out of the trees and attempting to enlarge their advantage by attacking enemy entrenchments in coconut groves.

Federal Control of Cotton to Be Voted On

Washington, Dec. 12.—(AP)—Farmers in 19 southern and southwestern states vote in a referendum today on a proposal of the agriculture department to continue federal control over the production and marketing of cotton in 1943.

The proposal, if approved by at least two thirds of the growers voting, would give the department authority to invoke marketing quotas under which each farmer would be told how much cotton he could sell from next year's crop.

Sales in excess of a quota would be subject to a penalty tax of between eight and nine cents a pound. Although some farm leaders have urged abandonment of the program for the duration of the war, little organized opposition to the quota proposal has developed.

A stand against production restrictions was taken by a number of state agricultural commissioners at a meeting here recently.

The agriculture department contends that the cotton production should be reduced below this year's level and the extra land and effort be devoted to the production of food crops urgently needed to meet war demands. It says the United States has sufficient cotton to meet its needs for at least two years.

Star of Hope, 1899; Press, 1922.
Consolidated January 18, 1929.

Liner President Coolidge Strikes Mine in Pacific

—Washington

Washington, Dec. 12.—(AP)—The former liner President Coolidge, operating as an army transport fully loaded with approximately 4,000 troops, hit a mine and sank in the South Pacific, the Navy announced today, with a loss of only four men.

"Prompt and efficient" rescue efforts were credited with holding casualties to so small a number, the Navy said.

The Navy announcement did not disclose in what area of the south Pacific the 21,930-ton vessel was operating at the time and said merely that it was on a war mission.

The names of those lost were not given, but it was stated that the survivors included Henry Nelson, San Francisco, the master of the President Coolidge.

This was the tenth transport announced by the Navy as having been sunk by enemy action.

The sinking of five transports in operations off North Africa early last month was reported on December 3. Prior to that the loss of four troop carriers in the Solomons area had been disclosed.

The President Coolidge was the largest of the ten.

The vessel was owned by the American President Lines of San Francisco, but had been chartered and operated by the war shipping administration for the army. It was completed in 1931.

Of the actual loss of the vessel the Navy said only that it "was lost in recent weeks in the South Pacific."

"The vessel, operating as a transport, was fully loaded with troops and equipment when it struck a mine and sank," the statement continued.

"Through prompt and efficient rescue efforts, casualties were limited to four men."

A Navy spokesman said that there were approximately 4,000 troops aboard the ship with only a few score crewmen.

No civilian, but the secretaries of War and the Navy, shall determine how many men each service is to get each month. It will be up to Chairman McNutt, however, to produce those men without breaking up the vital industrial machinery of the arsenal-granary of democracy.

The key to the situation, however, lies in paragraph 5.

This authorizes Chairman McNutt to pry loose workers whose services are more urgently needed elsewhere, and to insist that, being available for essential work, those men and women shall be hired through the U. S. Employment Service.

It goes without saying that in placing workers the USES is to see that every war-winning job is adequately filled.

Mr. McNutt can go to the Pouter Doll Mfg. Co., Inc., and say to Mr. Pouter, president:

"You have seven skilled machinists. The Smackem Tank Corp. needs 15 good machinists. Please send Messrs. A, B, C, D, E, F and G to go by Saturday week."

Tiger Kills Trainer in Beatty Circus

Fort Lauderdale, Dec. 12.—(AP)—Wallace Ayers, 25, an animal keeper at Clyde Beatty's Zoo and Lion farm, was killed late yesterday by the claws and teeth of a tiger, which in turn was killed by a black bear.

Albert Fleet, head keeper, said Ayers was attacked when he turned the corner of a tent and came suddenly upon the tiger lying in his path. He was clawed and bitten and died before reaching a hospital.

Fleet and others drove the tiger off. The infuriated animal jumped into a pen housing a bear, which immediately engaged him in battle. The bear won quickly.

Bad Weather Fails to Halt Raid on Italy

London, Dec. 12.—(AP)—Bad weather over the continent partially thwarted the RAF's third attack of the week on northern Italy last night but did not prevent a small number of bombers from reaching their objective and dropping another load of explosives on battered Turin, it was announced today.

Three bombers were reported lost on the mission, the results of which could not be fully assessed because of clouds obscuring the target. Other war industries, was heavily bombed Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

Reports from the English south coast saying that the rear of east-bound planes was audible for more than an hour last evening made it clear that a large force has set out on the long jaunt across the Alps and the raiders were said to have encountered almost unbelievably bad weather immediately after crossing the channel.

Dense cloud banks more than four miles thick forced the planes to a high altitude, where they encountered intense cold which coated their wings with a dangerously heavy load of ice.

Of the bombers which got through to the target, a few were said to have found gaps in the clouds through which they nosed down to loose their bomb.

The announcement of the raids was preceded by radio reports from Vichy and Bern that unidentified planes had dropped bombs on French and Swiss soil during the night.

Vichy said that aircraft believed to be British had bombed the town of Annecy, close to the Italian border, and about 95 miles from Turin, killing three people.

The Swiss government declared that foreign planes had dropped incendiary bombs on Sins and Canton Argovie in northwest Switzerland, damaging several buildings, and also at Canton Valais in western Switzerland near the French border, starting a forest fire.

Some German aerial activity was reported during the night over coastal areas in northeast England, where bombs were reported to be falling and were apparently were not on a large scale.

Some casualties, including several deaths, occurred in one industrial town which was subjected to a short but sharp attack. Two fatalities were reported in a mining village.

OSCUATION ODDITY
The custom of kissing first began between kinsmen and kinswomen when the men might know whether their women had been tasting wine, according to Cato, Roman poet of the first century B. C.

By The Associated Press
So Near, So Far
Gettysburg, Pa. — Corp. Roy K. Mickley spent 17 months learning invasion tactics. Then, rarin' for action, he headed for North Africa.

Within sight of land his ship was sunk. Another craft rescued him—and steamed off to the United States before he had set foot on African soil.

Close Call
State College, Pa. — An over-excited substitute almost stopped a collegiate basketball game here before he got it in.

When his coach told him to prepare to play, he jumped up, pulled off his sweat shirt and started to slip out of his sweat pants — and only then remembered he'd forgotten his uniform.

Third Battle for Don River Elbow Gets Underway

—Europe

By HENRY CASSIDY
Moscow, Dec. 12.—(AP)—The third battle for the elbow of the Don river west of Stalingrad appeared to be underway today with Axis forces launching repeated attacks in the east bank of the river but Russian advisers from the front that the Red Army was repulsing all assaults.

The Russians declared their own advance continued on sectors of both the Stalingrad and central fronts, including a point west of Rzhev where they forced a water crossing and capture enemy front-line trenches.

The Don elbow, which the Germans occupied last August, was reconquered by Soviet troops in force November 19.

The main German object now appeared to be to strike back in this sector to relieve garrisons at which the Russians are pounding.

In a campaign marked by swift turns and surprising maneuvers, the Red Army had pushed south from Serafimovich and then turned east toward Stalingrad.

The Germans replied by attacking westward from Stalingrad although they continued to hold the siege before the city against vicious assaults by Red Army troops within the factory area and on the southern fringes.

Despite the repeated counterattacks of the Germans on the Don Bend, the Russians said that they held them still confined to the east bank.

Inside Stalingrad, in the southern area of the city, Red Star said Soviet troops drove the enemy off two hills, occupied six pillbox positions and killed many Nazi troops.

A small force maintaining a two-week-old foothold deep in the German defenses on the western slope of a hill has repulsed five and six enemy assaults daily Red Star said.

The newspaper reported that Soviet Stormovik bombers and low-flying attack planes had destroyed several dozen Junkers-52 air transports in raids on airfields.

The battlegrounds near Rzhev and Velikie Luki, Red Star said, one Nazi battalion brought up as reserves Wednesday was marched directly into battle and suffered serious losses. Generally, German counterattacks in the area were proving futile, Red Star said.

(The German radio broadcast a DNB report that Russian forces commanded by General Gregory Zhukov had driven to Belyi, 60 miles southwest of Rzhev and in the direction of Smolensk, a German headquarters point 75 miles south of Belyi.)

Women Wanted on
Arms Plant Jobs
Women are wanted for employment as production workers in Defense Industry in Arkansas, the U. S. Employment Service, 201 East Second street, Hope, announced today.

Wanted are white women between the ages of 18 and 40, in good physical condition, well proportioned as to height and weight, and of eighth grade education or better.

The Germans can stand another winter in Russia only with the greatest difficulty. It is now impossible for the Germans to swing back and make a furious attack in the west.

Stymied
Ontario, Calif. — As Santa Claus' assistant in charge of his local correspondence, Miss Bertha Schwartz, head of the city nursing staff, gets some tough assignments. But this one has her stopped completely.

Signed "Helen." The letter read: "Dear Santa: I am a little girl 18 years old. I want 20 gallons of gasoline, four new tires and a second lieutenant."



THE BATTLE FOR RUSSIA hinges on who controls these key points and the railroads linking them. Nazis have held on to a solid line of swastikas from the Baltic to the Black Sea for more than a year, but established only a few strongholds east of these points in the 1942 campaign. Now major Russian attacks threaten to push Rzhev, Voronezh, Stalingrad and Caucasus areas threaten to push Germans back to their 1941 line or even farther.

Xmas Mail Must Clear by Dec. 15

Some of the public — but not enough — are heeding the warnings of the Postoffice Department that Christmas gifts must be mailed this year earlier than ever before, it reports from seven of the largest post offices in the United States.

Prove to be typical. Six of these offices, queried on Christmas mailings, reported that gift parcels had started moving through the mails from 10 to 12 days earlier than in previous years. The seventh reported some rise in parcel post but no broad gain in Christmas mailings.

Christmas cards — one of the most difficult problems because of the public's habit of mailing them in a last-minute deluge — also have started to move, but in only small numbers.

But, postal officials warn, the early mailings are not yet in sufficient volume to prevent delay in deliveries of gifts until after Christmas unless mailings are increased sharply at once.

Completed by December 15. War-time burdens make it essential that the peak of mailings be far earlier than in normal times.

Postmaster General Frank C. Walker, who has held repeated conferences with high officials of his Department on the Christmas mail problem, again called attention to the absolute necessity of public cooperation.

"My Department is handling a variety of big wartime tasks in addition to the distribution of civilian mail," he said. "We handle a vast amount of Army and Navy mail within this country until it reaches military and naval stations or embarkation ports, where it is taken over for delivery by the Army or Navy. We write many millions of dollars' worth of war bonds, sell immense numbers of war stamps, handle a huge volume of official correspondence and printed matter. Our service is burdened with war work and so is the transportation system that carries the mails."

Several Articles
Stolen by Thieves
The Hope police department today reported the theft over night of 2 cases of beer, a pair of shoes and 6 sacks of sugar from Wallace's Cafe. Police said the cafe owner failed to lock his door at closing time. They also reported the theft of tools last night from a Dempsey Construction Company truck.

Don't let the price of butter upset you. It can be made from grass.

Rommel May Not Try for Stand at El Agheila

—Africa

London, Dec. 12.—(AP)—Confronted with a steadily reinforced Axis Army of 28,000, the Allies faced a hard and bloody struggle today in the battle for Tunisia, but the first cautious probing of the enemy's newly established line at El Agheila in Libya raised the possibility that Marshal Rommel may not make a stand there.

The Germans and Italians were pouring air-borne reinforcements into Tunisia to bolster forces already holding the advantage of occupying a well fortified, compact area and dispatches from that North African front showed plainly that the Allies were in for a bitter struggle to win Tunis and Bizerte. One advantage was the growing Allied air might in Tunisia and the entire Mediterranean area, as emphasized by the one-two punches yesterday in new and devastating raids by American bombers upon Naples and by another attack of home-based British bombers last night on Turin.

The Tunisian picture was balanced too by the British Middle East announcement today that in the related battle for Libya "developments are proceeding according to plan without interference from the enemy."

Some quarters in London suggested this meant Rommel might have been outmaneuvered at El Agheila while others, taking a more cautious view, conjectured that he might have left just a screen of token forces along the 40-mile defile there while withdrawing bulk of his remaining forces toward Tripoli.

Growing Axis nervousness and reports that British patrols had penetrated as deep as two miles within enemy lines between the Gulf of Sirte and the El Agheila salt depression lent support to the theory that Rommel had decided against a stand there.

The Italian high command's war bulletin, without supporting details, reported today that British armed attacks had been ward off in Libya.

For their part, the Germans, frustrated in their drive upon Allied-held Medjed El Bab, 35 miles southwest of Tunis, said today that in new thrusts stubborn Allied defenders had been wiped out at a bridgehead south of the Medjedra river which bisects the Mateur-Tebourba line in Tunisia.

Lieut. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower continued to gather his forces in the muddy hills and the Allied striking force would be in position to push the Germans back to the sea in due time.

A Reuters dispatch from the Tunisian front estimated that 23,000 Germans and 5,000 Italians were now in Tunisia. Ten or 12 German transport planes are arriving with troops every day, it was said.

There were no clarifying reports on the situation in the Mateur-Tebourba area, but the Allied salient which once jutted toward the horseshoe bend from the two towns had disappeared. The Allied line now was almost straight, the spokesman said, and there apparently had been a withdrawal in the Tebourba region.

"The enemy has been able to get appreciable men and materials from Sicily," an Allied spokesman said, and added:

"Lieut. Gen. Kenneth N. Anderson commander of the British 1st Army cannot commit himself to a major battle until he is certain of winning."

A Morocco broadcast, quoting French headquarters in North Africa, said the Germans suffered heavy infantry losses in the Medjed El Bab fighting, but it was also apparent that the deep Allied wedge between Tunis and Bizerte had been forced back many miles.

Even when your car engine is "idling," you are using about one pint of gasoline per 10 minutes.

10 SHOPPING DAYS
TO
Christmas

WAR BONDS • STAMPS

ay, December 12, 1942

HOPE STAR, HOPE, ARKANSAS

SOCIETY

Daisy Dorothy Heard, Editor Telephone 768

society news must reach office by 10 a. m. to insure publication the same day.

Social Calendar

Friday, December 12th
The Women's Auxiliary of the Presbyterian church, the church, 2:30 o'clock.

The W. M. U. of the First Baptist church will meet at the church for Mission Study, 2:30 o'clock.

The Young Business Women's club of the First Baptist church will meet in the home of Mrs. M. Bates Monday evening, 7:30. Transportation will be provided from the church for those who do not have cars.

The Little Moon Christmas program will be held at the home of Mrs. Hugh Jones, 7:30 p. m. Transportation will be provided from the church.

Monday, December 15th
The American Legion Auxiliary, Legion hall, 2:30. Each member is asked to bring a Christmas card for exchange.

Miss Nedra Gibson, Bride-Elect, Honoree at Party

As special compliment to Miss Nedra Gibson, fiancée of Lt. Frank S. Johnson, Southwestern Proving Ground, Mrs. Franklin Horton, Jr. and Mrs. Franklin Horton, Jr. were hostesses at a delightful party Friday evening at their home.

Wedding bells and a wedding party in miniature arranged in the dining room stressed the bridal motif. Nadine berries were used as floral decorations.

For bridge four tables were arranged with Miss Gibson's place being marked by white satin ribbons. Miss Nell Williams received the high score gift and the second high and bingo prizes went to Miss Nell Daniels. The hostess presented the honoree with a dainty gift.

The bridal motif was further carried out in the delightful salad course served following the games. Miss Gibson was presented with a number of lovely gifts of lingerie by the following guests:

Mrs. G. A. Hobbs, Mrs. Edwin Stewart, Miss Verna Marie Porter, Miss Nell Williams, Miss Wanda Lane, Miss Carolyn Barr, Miss Nell Daniel, Mrs. Doc Planter, Mrs. Verda Seals, Miss Beatrice Crutchfield, Miss Sue Rogers, Miss Alyce Ferguson, Mrs. John S. Gibson, Sr., and Miss Daisy Dorothy Heard.

Christmas Party at Little House For Girl Scout Troop 6

Banked with Christmas greens, the Girl Scout cabin, "The Little House", was the scene of festive Friday night when the Girl Scouts of Troop 6 entertained friends with a party.

RIALTO

PREVIEW SATURDAY NIGHT 11 P. M.

YOU'LL FALL IN LOVE WITH THIS MODERN "MRS. CHIPS"



Green GARSON PIDGEON Mrs. Miniver

with Teresa Wright-Dame May Whitty A METRO-GOLDWYN-PICTURE

Friday - Saturday



Also Tom Keene in "Arizona Roundup"

Sunday - Monday Bob Hope Madeleine Carroll in "My Favorite Blonde"

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Games and dancing were enjoyed and at the conclusion hot chocolate and cookies were served to the chaperons, Mrs. J. O. Milam, Mrs. James McLarty, Mrs. Earl O'Neal, and the following young people:

Betty Jane Allen, Jessie Charles Brown, Laura Ann Gnafo, Carolyn Joe Geisholt, Alice Lorraine Heard, Evelyn Hollyday, Barbara LaGrone, Alice Lile, Eva Jean Milam, Matilda McFaddin, Dorothy O'Neal, Sophia Williams, Doris Urrey, Buddy Bowden, Elsworth Bailey, Glen Williams, Buck Barbee, Billy Ed Basye, Bill Wells, Howard Cobb, Hugh Hollyday, Dwight Grisham, Bill Conway, C. R. Gordon, H. O. Kyles, Jr., and John Henry Moore.

Friday Music Club in Special Study at the Methodist Church

Mrs. B. W. Edwards was hostess to the Friday Music club Friday afternoon. As the program was based on an organ study, the meeting was held at the First Methodist church auditorium.

Mrs. W. E. White, program chairman, discussed her topic, "Music in the Middle Ages", and presented Mrs. Edwin Stewart and Mrs. C. C. McNeil in organ selections.

Mrs. J. C. Carlton, president, presided at the brief business session following the program.

Methodist Junior Department Entertained Friday

Fifteen members of the Junior Department of the First Methodist church assembled at the church Friday evening for a special Christmas entertainment. Chaperons were Mrs. Don Smith, Miss Clarice Cannon, Mrs. J. B. Koonce, and Mrs. Earl O'Neal.

Games and contests were arranged for the pleasure of those attending. The hostesses served candies, cookies, and sandwiches with hot chocolate during the evening.

Coming and Going

J. R. Heard and G. C. McBride of Waco, Texas are in Hope Saturday in connection with the development of the mangrove mines in Polk county. Mr. Heard will remain over the weekend with Mrs. Heard, and daughters, Alice Lorraine and Daisy Dorothy.

Lt. Edwin Garrison departs today from the Southwestern Proving Ground for his new post at Eglin Field, Fla.

Miss Bertha Sparks has gone to Huntsville, Texas for a pre-Christmas visit with relatives and friends.

Stuart Spragins of Little Rock arrived Friday to be with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Spragins, before reporting for duty with the United States Armed forces at Camp Endicott, Rhode Island.

Miss Janet Lemley of El Dorado is home for a weekend visit with her parents, Judge and Mrs. W. K. Lemley. Fred Ellis of Little Rock is expected to arrive tonight to spend the weekend with Mrs. Ellis in the Lemley home.

Miss Harriet Story is spending a fortnight with Mr. and Mrs. Garvett Story before returning to Sioux Falls, S. D.

Miss Verna Marie Porter is a Saturday visitor to Texarkana.

Chief Petty officer H. M. Stanley of Norfolk, Va., is the guest of Mrs. Stanley this week before reporting to a Virginia port for Officers' training school.

Mrs. Fred White, Mrs. M. M. McCloughan, Mrs. Leroy Spates, and Mrs. Bill Smith spent Friday in Texarkana.

Started Shaving Habit? Because they were too easy for the enemy to grasp in close fighting, Alexander the Great made his soldiers cut off their long beards.

NEW SAENGER

Friday - Saturday

Jane Frazee Gloria Jean Robert Paige

in

"Get Hep To Love"

also

It's bad medicine for bad men when they're trailed by...

Little Joe, the Wrangler

JOHNNY MACK BROWN TEX RITTER FUZZY KNIGHT

Chapter 13 "CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT"

JOHANN started up, face crimson with anger and hurt. He had tried so hard to be one of them.

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Bowl Honors at Stake in Today's Contest

Los Angeles, Dec. 12 —(AP)— The honor of representing the far west in the Rose Bowl New Year's Day was at stake as the UCLA Bruins came to grips today with their old rival, Southern California.

The outcome was regarded generally as a tossup, with the breaks likely to determine which shall oppose Georgia and Frank Sinkwich in Pasadena's Stadium.

Southern California hasn't been able this year to beat a team employing the "T" formation and UCLA's "QT" adaptation may give the Trojans lots of trouble with left halfback Al Solari exploding into the secondary on quick opening plays.

Pacific coast conference athletic representatives will select Gerogian's opponent in a telephone vote expected to be completed at 11 o'clock (Central War Time) tonight. If UCLA wins they undoubtedly will be selected, but they also may be the team if they get no better than a tie. Southern California, likewise, was expected to be the nominee if it wins. It never has lost to the Bruins in nine years.

Ed Atherton, coast conference athletic commissioner, said all the schools would be asked to give a complete rating of each other, ranging from first place to tenth, to aid in determining the Rose Bowl nominee.

The consensus seems to be that the game will be a test between the superlative passing of the Bruins' Bob Waterfield, and the versatile (when it works) running attack of the Trojans.

Solari bears the burden of the Bruins' ground offensive. He fits in well with UCLA's QT style of attack, and it is a threat every time he gets his hands on the ball.

USC's Mickey McCordie won his Associated Press all-conference berth largely on his adeptness as a potent passer. And Southpaw Paul Taylor and Bob Musick also are better than average flingers.

Sports Mirror

By the Associated Press Today a Year Ago Pittsburgh Pirates traded infielder Arky Vaughan to Brooklyn Dodgers for Catcher Babe Phelps.

Pitcher Luke Hamlin, infielder Pete Coscarart and outfielder Jim Wastel.

Three Year Ago Texas A & M named No. 1 college grid team in final Associated Press poll of season, with Tennessee second and Southern California third.

Five Years Ago Sensational passing by Baugh sparked third period rally and carried Washington Redskins to 28-21 victory over defending champion Chicago Bears in playoff for National League pro football title.

lo and tumbled out of it three times.

Today's Guest Star Hol Wood, Twin Falls (Idaho) Times-News: "ODT Director Joseph B. Eastman's order permitting team baseball travel is one of the finest things that could happen to sports. Because, while the minor leagues may have to carry the brunt of the baseball blow, the retention of baseball in the big top will still provide the incentive and it will assure the continuance of baseball after the war." 8

Good Sports Letter-writing hardly comes under the head of a sports event, but Hugo Germino Durham, (N.C.) Sun columnist, points out that folks who write frequently to their friends in the armed forces can qualify as good sports. Hence he suggests

THE EDGE OF DARKNESS

By WILLIAM WOODS

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QUISLING

CHAPTER XXIV

WHENEVER Karl had been on sentry duty the night before, and so was entitled to be away from early roll call, the corporal wrote him down. "Absent but accounted for." So at six that morning when he awoke and saw the cot beside him empty, he was not at all alarmed.

"With the girl again," he thought, and smiled.

But at 8 o'clock Karl had still not returned, and the corporal, with some misgivings about doing him a bad turn, had to report him. It went down in his book under the date, December 1st, "Private Fischer absent without leave."

At 9 he was called into the captain's office to be questioned.

At a little before 10, just after sunrise, Paul Herrmann and the two soldiers, all white of face, reported that in the alley beside the shoemaker's shop they had found fresh boot tracks made since half past three when the snow had stopped falling. Near them, under a scattering of snow meant to hide it, they had seen a large red stain.

All through the cold and gloomy day, tense with foreboding, they searched. At a little before 3 it was already dark again.

Up in the hotel, Johann Stensgard sat with a group of soldiers and played 21 for beers. The men were nervous, and stopped once in a while to gaze out the dark, frosted windows. Something was afoot in the village.

"You, Herr Stensgard," said one of them, "are you going to join up? There's the Norwegian brigade, you know, on the Russian front."

"Of course," Johann told him arrogantly. "I'm going to put just as much into this fight as any of you."

They looked away from each other. The game had stopped. Johann had the uncomfortable feeling that everything they said was directed at him, that he was the outsider among them, and in spite of all he had tried, could never be anything else. "Well," he said, "well, let's get on. What's wrong?"

"The man with the brandy leaned forward over the table. 'You know,' he drawled, 'there are some words that mean the same thing in German as in Norwegian.' 'Yes?' And the boy frowned surprisedly. 'What words?' 'Quisling,' the man said slowly.

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Buy A Bond—Who Wouldn't?



BONDED. An old salt, Rear Admiral W. L. Friedell, commandant of the Mare Island Navy Yard, backs up his faith in his country by buying a \$1000 war bond from salesmen Robert Young, left, and Marsha Hunt.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

By HUGH FULLERTON, JR. Wide World Sports Columnist

New York, Dec. 12 —(AP)— Gerry Nugent, who apparently prefers to sell the Phil spiccone instead of in one chunk, had a date with Branch Rickey last night. . . . The subject of their conversation wasn't disclosed, of course, but Rickey has become a buyer instead of a seller since he left St. Louis and we hear that when somebody offered Nugent \$300,000 for the Phil franchise and his reply was that he could get that much for four of his players. . . . Bob Kurland, the seven-foot center who will play for the Oklahoma Aggies against the C.C.N.Y. basketball team tonight, is a real problem child for Pullman porters. Too big for regular berth, he drew a makeshift sleeping place coming here from Buffalo.

Even in football - rabid Washington, where it's considered treasonable to discredit the Redskins, Chicago ruled at least a 3-1 favorite for a final workout before laying their world championship on the line in a National League playoff contest with the Washington Redskins at Griffith Stadium tomorrow.

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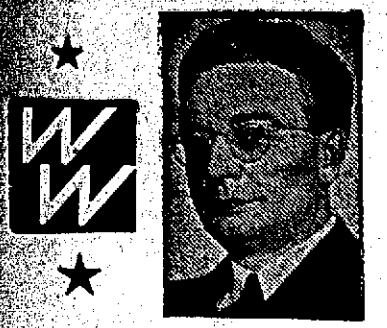
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El Agheila Battle to Be One of War's Most Decisive



By DEWITT MACKENZIE

With the British Eighth Army in Libya, Dec. 12 — The impending showdown between Allied and Axis forces on the desert about El Agheila promises not only to rank among the decisive battles of the war but involves one of the greatest personal dramas of the entire conflict.

Nazi Marshal Rommel will be in the full glare of the limelight which he loves so well and manly to hold so often. He has been selected by his master to make the sacrifice, performing the seemingly impossible holding operation to give Hitler time to reeling his storm-torn forces in Europe.

Rommel's job is to hold on as long as the Devil will let him. And of course his fate involves not only his own front, but that in Tunisia as well.

One's first impulse is to say Rommel is being made the goat, but that's not fair. A man who is among the greatest soldiers of his day is entitled to more dignified characterization than that. We would say that poor Mussolini, whose jaw is bigger than his head, is the goat since he has played a stupid role for Hitler. But Rommel has been assigned a fighting man's task and it will be interesting to see whether he takes in his usual jaunty stride.

In these days of rapid changes one is chary of applying any such term as suicidal to Rommel's task. We can say however the odds are against him right now and it's highly improbable that either he or Hitler believes northern Africa can be held for long.

Rommel's debacle at El Alamein at the end of October stripped him of his prestige.

The worst aspect of his situation, however, lies in the fact he has been reinforced from Europe. He is pulling them through. He's getting some aid from the air, and so are the Axis forces in Tunisia.

Hitler undoubtedly will manage to send more help to both these theaters, especially in air power, but the dangers which beset him on the continent both by land and air are compelling him to keep strong forces there.

If it were possible for him to detach a large proportion of his Luftwaffe for use in Africa his chances of keeping a toehold on the dark continent would be improved vastly. But he dares not strip Europe of its power.

British and American bombers are pouring destruction on Germany and the Hitlerian dependent states. The Russians are tearing at Nazi lines and a potential Allied invasion of the continent menaces him from divers directions. He would be mad to denude Europe of defenses.

Therefore we see the Nazi all-out effort to stage a holding operation in Africa to give him time to get ready for action in Europe. He must consolidate his position in an Italy which is so weak, sits under the big guns of the Allies and would desert him if it had the physical strength to throw him out of the country.

He must halt that Russian offensive if he is to prevent it from crashing through his eastern defenses. He must avert an invasion through southern and western France and other points. And he must maintain large forces in the occupied countries to prevent an uprising.

Despite all this I believe we must expect hard fighting in the African campaign. Rommel isn't a quitter, and the stubborn resistance of the Axis forces in Tunisia indicates a determination to hang on to the last and at least fulfill the mission of standing off the Allies while Hitler consolidates his defenses at home.

Heavy resistance is fully expected by the British, but so confident are the troops they're anxious to get ahead with the job.

To Prosecute Trio for Trying to Steal Cannon

Jefferson City, Dec. 12 — (AP) — With a grand larceny charge against a St. Louis Post-Dispatch editor and two fellow St. Louisans, the state of Missouri set out in dignified wrath today to protect a broken down cannon it doesn't even own.

Ordered for arraignment on the larceny charge (which had the whole-hearted endorsement of Gov. Forrest C. Donnell) were:

1. Ralph Coghlan, editor of the Post-Dispatch editorial page who suggested editorially this week that somebody ought to haul the old field piece off the capitol grounds — since the state has no title to it — and dump it on a war scrap heap.

2. Sidney W. Stearns and Ross W. Riley, a pair of St. Louisans who thought Coghlan had a good idea, decided to act upon it and landed in jail before they'd budged the Mexican war relic an inch. In addition Stearns and Riley were accused of carrying concealed weapons — a revolver found on the floor of their half-ton truck.

Vane Thurlow, assistant attorney general, said "the information furnished us is that Coghlan arranged to have this cannon taken and if that is true he is guilty as a principal" on the grand larceny charge.

Donnell, who decided the cannon could not be converted into scrap because the state had no title to it and thus could not legally dispose of it, termed the episode "outrageous" and declared:

"The law is going to be enforced in this state, the post-dispatch notwithstanding."

He and other state officials ordered Attorney General Roy McKeltrick to "assist in the prosecution of these two men, Coghlan and all other persons, if any, who may be deemed to have been connected with these acts."

It was the second time Coghlan's vigorous editorial pen had brought him into a brush with the law. Two years ago he was cited for criminal contempt for an editorial criticizing the St. Louis circuit court. The state supreme court upheld Coghlan and quashed the contempt citation.

War to Cause Breakdown in Family Life

By HOWARD W. BLAKESLEE
Associated Press Science Editor
Bloomington, Ind., Dec. 12 — Women are quietly absorbing one of the greatest shocks of war, a widespread breakdown in American family life.

Marriages during or immediately after war are more unstable, as measured by divorce, than ordinary peace time marriages.

Women are likely to emerge from this war with more freedom and responsibility than ever.

Great numbers of men face a drastic change in sex life.

These are the principal prospects turned up in a study of family behavior in war time, made by Dr. Harvey J. Locke, assistant professor of sociology, Indiana University.

The first large-scale family upset started well before America's entry into the war. Since 1936 there has been a greater dispersion of families than in any other six-year period. By 1941, in this country, 5,000,000 persons had migrated to war production centers. In 1942 the estimate is for 1,600,000 more movements, and of these more than 1,000,000 are families.

War already has changed courtship. The customary waiting period children almost stopped.

Hasty marriages greatly increased at the beginning of the war but at present the number of new marriages is falling off. If the war continues two or three years more, the numbers will fall to a very low level.

But after the war an excess of marriages will more than make up the losses of war years.

However, all these situations made from broken homes, or greater difficulties of maintaining successful homes, especially for the women. After the hasty war marriage, Dr. Locke says, there is a long separation, the newly weds have divergent experience, and when reunited, they are more or less strangers.

This war involves far larger numbers of men in segregated circumstances than ever before in American history.

"Married men in the services," says Dr. Locke, "and to some extent in defense industries have to adjust their family habits and sex life to habits, values and more of a predominantly male society. For a time the patterns of sex behavior practiced in civilian life may be perpetuated, with the qualification that the sex life of the men is considerably reduced."

"The homosexual civilian continues his homosexuality in the army; the man frequenting prostitutes continues to frequent prostitutes; and the man practicing continence continues to be continent in the army. In general the civilian to

Women Radio Operators Fly Airways



The first of thirty new radio operators went to work for Braniff Airways at the airline's Dallas base it has been announced. First to graduate and go to work is Miss Carol Hance of Urinnell, Iowa, shown above. Training of the corps of female "sparks" began last May when a new school for women radio operators was opened at the Midland Radio School in Kansas City, Mo.

Block Plan of Civil Defense Is Organized

Representatives from all sections of town met Friday afternoon at the city hall to complete the organization of the Block Plan for civilian war services.

Miss Taylor, home economics instructor, and Miss Mary Claude Fletcher, home demonstration instructor, held a short period of instruction and passed out material to zone, sector, and block leaders.

Miss Taylor discussed the purpose and importance of organization to carry on the necessary war work and of getting the correct information to the people.

Miss Fletcher discussed the Block Plan at work—why share, what to share, and how to share to meet the needs of our armed forces and fighting allies.

There will be food demonstrations in each zone and any one or any group of persons wanting demonstration should call Miss Fletcher or Miss Taylor.

Every household in town is urged to participate in this important program. Ask your neighbor what you can do to help out in this emergency.

James H. Jones, Hempstead County Chairman of Civilian Defense, presided. There were about 40 women present for this organization meeting.

Market Report

ST. LOUIS LIVESTOCK
National Stockyards, Ill., Dec. 12 — (U. S. Dept. Agr.) — Hogs, 600; cleanup deal 5-15 lower; good and choice 180-220 lbs. 13.65-75; top 13.80; a few 140-160 lbs. 13.00-50; sows 13.00-25; compared close last week 25-35 higher; sows about steady.

Cattle, 50; calves, 50; compared with Friday last week steers 25 or more higher; heifers and mixed yearlings about strong to 25 higher; cows strong, some good 25 higher; bulls steady; vealers 25 higher; replacement steers strong to 25 higher; tops for week, 1226 lb. steers 1.650; 1000 lbs. yearlings 15.50; 1000 lb. heifers 14.50; 674 lb. mixed yearlings 14.25; cows 13.00; sausage bulls 12.00; vealers 15.50; feeder steers 13.25.

Sheep, none; compared Friday last week, lambs steady to 25 higher; yearlings 25-50 higher; ewes 75-1.0 higher; top woolled lambs for week 15.50; top clipped lambs 15.35 top yearlings 14.50; top ewes 7.00; bulk prices for week, good and choice woolled lambs 15.00-50; medium and good 13.75-14.75; c lund common kinds 9.00-11.00; good and choice clipped lambs 14.75 - 15.25; woolled yearlings 13.50 - 14.50; clipped yearlings 13.25-13.75; good and choice ewes 6.00-7.00.

NEW YORK STOCKS
New York, Dec. 12 (AP) — Tax selling, while still light, again was a factor in maintaining today's slightly irregular stock market trend.

Fractional advances were plentiful at the start and near the close but minor declines were well distributed notwithstanding sporadic recoveries in the final hour. Seaborne specialties did well and weakness was a rarity in any department.

Large blocks of low-priced issues continued to prop volume. Transfers for the two hours were around 300,000 shares.

Analysts discerned nothing particular in the war news to touch off bullish or bearish flurries. Earnings and dividends remained as a bolstering influence for individual issues. Observers were encouraged by the fact the list, on average, just about held its own during the past week.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS
Chicago, Dec. 12 — (AP) — A firm undertone prevailed in wheat futures today, reflecting strong bids for the bread cereal in the cash market. Other grains were not better than steady to slightly lower.

Traders said that, despite the high bids on wheat, farmers were not inclined to sell. Little or no grain was bought, according to information received by grain men.

Wheat closed unchanged to 1-8 cent higher, December \$1.31 3-4, May \$1.32 7-8—\$1.33, corn was unchanged to 1-4 lower, December 57 3-8, oats were 1-4 lower to 1-4 higher, rye lost 3-8—5-8 and soybeans finished 1-4 lower to 1-2 higher.

No wheat.
Corn old: No. 2 yellow 91; new corn: No. 3 yellow 87 3-4—89 3-4.
Oats No. 1 mixed 53 1-2.

WHEAT
Dec. high, 1.31 3-4; low, 1.30 1-2; close, 1.31 3-4.
May — high, 1.33; low, 1.32 45-8; close, 1.32 7-8—1.33.

CORN
Dec. high, 87 1-2; low, 87 1-4; close, 87 3-8.
May—high, 91 1-4; low, 91; close, 91 1-8—91.

NEW YORK COTTON
New York, Dec. 12 — (AP) — Discouragement over prospects of an early adjournment of congress which would throw the whole question of higher purity into the next session, coupled with continued lack of mill demand for spot cotton, brought about moderate reactions in cotton futures today.

Futures closed 10 to 90 cents a bale lower.
Dec—opened, 19.27; closed, 19.05N
Jan—opened, 18.94; closed, 18.84N
Mar—opened, 18.82; closed, 18.78
May—opened, 18.64; closed, 18.61
Jul—opened, 18.54; closed, 18.50-52
Oct—opened, 18.51; closed, 18.47-48
Midling spot 20.43N; Off 2

Paratrooper Raff Is Able Commander

By RUSSELL C. LANDSTROM
With Advance United States Forces in Tunisia, Dec. 6 — (Delayed) — (AP) — Down here on the right flank of the Tunisian front, legends are flowering about the daring personality of Colonel Edward Raff's difficult mission in the south.

Americans, French and even natives have applied sobriquets which measure their esteem of the scrappy 35-year-old leader. Some call him the "savior of Tunisia," others say he's the "New Lawrence." They agree he's the type of commander who would be more than a match for Nazi Field Marshal Erwin Rommel.

Regardless of what they call him, he's certainly got drive. His devoted followers say he seldom sleeps or eats yet his energy always seems undiminished. He appeals to the French imagination, which feeds on his indifference to danger.

Raff's parachute troops, likewise his infantry units, won high praise for the job they did in the assault west of Oran.

Under his command now are British sappers and French infantry, cavalry, artillery, pioneers, Spahis and Senegalese. There's even a camel corps of natives.

French officers, including generals, placed themselves at Raff's disposal, taking orders cheerfully and exemplifying the happy liaison between French and Americans in this mountainous sector.

Raff and other officers of this force attributed their success in the mountain passes in considerable part to the supporting French artillery.

Proudest man today in Raff's command is Sergeant Everett F. White, Foxborough, Mass., who captured a German in the last attack which cleared a pass near Faid. To get his man, White faced heavy sniper and machine-gun fire from rocky hideouts and saw his fighting mates wounded by grenades which popped out of apparently empty caves.

This Takes the Cake



TAKES THE CAKE. Climax of Hollywood wedding festivities for Reginald Gardiner, British actor, and Nadia Petrova, Russian model, came when they cut their wedding cake at reception given by producer Arthur Hornblow, Jr.

U. S. Weather Bureau to Battle Tornado

Kansas City, Dec. 12 — (AP) — The United States weather bureau will battle the tornado, one of the most brutally efficient meteorological killers of the prairie country.

Washington headquarters chose Kansas City as the first battle ground, Regional Director John A. Rile said today, partly because people in this area are weather conscious and success of the plan depends upon popular understanding and cooperation.

Nobody's going to try to stop tornadoes, Rile hastened to add. But effective warning systems, the bureau believes, could minimize the effects of even the worst storms.

Hundreds of volunteers in this area will aid regular weather men in reporting instantly the first glimpse of an approaching black funnel-like cloud.

As soon as the first report arrives, the warning system swings into action, with radios, newspapers, public utilities, public and office buildings, police and firemen notified of the reported path of the storm. If they know it's coming, much damage and most deaths can be avoided, the weather bureau believes.

Although the air whistles around in the funnel at terrific speeds, the storm itself moves only 30 to 50 miles an hour in a narrow path, usually northward, Rile explained.

In daylight, he said, persons have an excellent chance to run or even walk to safety. Then there are rural caves or city basements (the southwest corner is safest), or out in the open, the nearest ditch, in which to seek shelter. Flying debris is the greatest hazard.

In Thailand, each male must serve three years as a priest before reaching the age of 23.

Washington

By JACK STINNETT
Wide World Features Writer

Washington — When the news leaked out that Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes had been offered the job of Secretary of Labor and Manpower Czar of World War II, a lot of people were surprised, but few in official Washington.

No New Deal supporter, cabinet member, or Johnny-come-lately on the wartime stage has so increased his stature in the last year as "Honest Hal."

Before Pearl Harbor, Ickes was variously and contemptuously referred to as "The Big Ick," or "man" (Because he apparently was always handing the dirty job of verbally slaying opponents); or "Harold the Meddler."

Even during the last year, he has been called "the governments' No. 1 parasite" (following the President's suggestion that all non-essential Washingtonians were "parasites" and should move out of the Capital); and "The Big, Bad Egg Man" (Because he occasionally brought eggs to market in his headquarters — owned car from his Headquarters Farm, at Olney, Md.)

Nevertheless, Secretary Ickes has performed some feats since he entered the war that have confounded critics. As secretary of interior (and hence custodian of natural resources) he has been right as a rabbit on production of aluminum; the distribution of petroleum and gasoline; the shortage of electrical power; coal production; and other vital items.

He has locked horns with Congress, labor, the coal interests, the petroleum czars, WPB, the power people and several other groups since war started and every time has come out on top of the heap.

In discussing Ickes for Secretary of Labor and manpower czar, Washington observers seemed divided into two schools of thought:

(1) That his blunt, uncompromising nature fitted him particularly for one of the toughest jobs of the war; that his "the Chief," fearlessness in the face of personal attacks, and spit-fire tactics already have earmarked him as "most likely to succeed."

(2) That Ickes was merely asked to slick his neck out once more for the honor of the New Deal team.

In regard to the latter, it is certain that no man in the Administration set-up has played trial balloon so often as Ickes. Every time

Jap Airfield Threat to U. S. Solomons Base

Washington, Dec. 12 — (AP) — Army planes bombed a Japanese tanker, possibly damaged another and shot down six Zero planes in the northern Solomons recently, the Navy announced today in a communique disclosing that the enemy had established a flying field only about 150 miles from the American position on Guadalcanal.

Communique No. 217:

"South Pacific: (All dates are east longitude)

"1. On December 9:

"(A) Eleven army 'Flying Fortresses' (Boeing B-17) and eight 'Lightnings' (Lockheed P-38) attacked enemy surface vessels in Fasi harbor near Shortland Islands. Three bomb hits were scored on an enemy tanker and two bomb straddles were observed on a second tanker. The army (Lightnings) shot down five intercepting 'Zeros' and the 'Fortresses' destroyed another. All Army planes returned unscathed.

"(B) Army 'Flying Fortresses' bombed the Japanese flying field at Munda on New Georgia Island.

"(C) Ground activity on Guadalcanal Island was limited to patrol contacts with small enemy groups. A Japanese artillery position containing mortars and machine guns was silenced."

"A Naval spokesman said that the flying field at Munda was a new installation. It was known to be under construction within the last few weeks and may now be completed.

Munda, at the northwestern end of New Georgia Island is only about 150 miles from Guadalcanal, and if the Japanese were successful in establishing a field of operations at that point, it would enable them to concentrate possibly considerable fighter forces for attacks on Guadalcanal, something they have been unable to do in recent weeks.

INDUSTRY WIDESPREAD

The steel industry is so widespread that two out of every five U. S. senators and congressmen represent steel-producing districts.

GREAT SALT LAKE FINDER

First to discover Great Salt Lake, Utah, was James Bridger, famous trapper, scout and guide, who came upon it in 1825. The lake first was explored Sept. 8, 1843, by a party of five, including Kit Carson, under Col. John C. Fremont.

Island Airdrome

Sicily is the big island airdrome from which the axis is flying attacking planes and troop reinforcements to the battle of Tunisia. Airdrome is scattered throughout the island, used previously by the Nazis for bombings of Malta and British Mediterranean convoys.

The Cold, Battleship-Gray Dawn



Our Daily Bread

(Continued From Page One)

agreement would have on the current jurisdictional dispute and the raiser shippers, he declined to comment. Does that mean mental reservations even before the committee has been established?

The proof of the agreement will be in the sincerity with which it is carried out.

Bubble Punctured
President William Allen Patterson of United Air Lines, who can't be suspected of belittling the possibilities of the airplane, stuck a pin of common sense into a so-called bubble the other day.

"To haul 1500 tons of freight from Chicago to San Francisco and the same quantity back, would cost \$10,000 by train but \$1,750,000 by plane, says Patterson. A ship can take 13,000 tons round trip between San Francisco and Brisbane for

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